

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 5, please replace the paragraph beginning at line 6 with the following paragraph:

A third thermal imprintable label 52 is disposed over the ~~spliced-splice~~ gap 48 and adhered to both the first and second phase layers 14, 30 by an adhesive 58.

On page 5, please replace the paragraph beginning at line 10 with the following paragraph:

A splice tape 60 is disposed over the splice gap 48 and an adhesive 64 adheres the ~~spliced-splice~~ tape 60 to both the first and second silicone liners 20, 38 and enables the removal of the liners 20, 38 from the face layers 14, 32 without separation of the liners 20, 38. The splice tape 60 may be repulpable or non-repulpable and printable or non-printable.

On page 6, please replace the paragraph beginning at line 24 with the following paragraph:

Normally but not necessarily, the ~~spliced-splice~~ tape 60 has a greater width than the third thermal label 52 in order to insure bonding between the label 52 and the ~~phase sheets~~face layers 14, 32 upon removal of the liners 20, 38 from the papers 16, 34. That is, because ends 70, 72 of the splice tape 60 are not aligned with ends 74, 76 of the label 52 less stress is produced between the label 52 and the papers 16, 34 during the removal operation.

On page 7, please replace the paragraph beginning at line 4 with the following paragraph:

In addition, the splice gap 48 may have a width of between about 0 and about 0.125 inches and the third thermal label 52 may have a width of between about 1 and about 2 inches. To further increase strength, the splice gap 48 and label 52 and splice tape 60 are disposed at a transverse angle of between about 0° about 40° to a longitudinal axis 80 of the first and second thermal label stock 12, 30, as shown in Figure 1.